Disability Day Program Report Dec 3, 2022









WORLD DISABILITY DAY CELEBRATION DISABILITY RIGHTS CLINIC GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY

Seminar on UNDERSTANDING DISABILITY: THE RIGHTS PARADIGM

3rd Dec. 2022 | 1:30 pm T0 3.30 pm Venue: A-105, Galgotias University

Inauguration

CHIEF GUEST

Hon'ble Air Commodore Ranjan Mukherjee, VSM (Retd.) State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, NCT of Delhi

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World Disability Day Celebration Dec 3, 2022. & Inauguration of the Disability Rights Clinic Galgotias University

The new Disability Rights Paradigm brought by the Universal law, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2008, (UNCRPD) mandates a real socio-legal change for treating people with disabilities as equals. It declares disability as an inherent human condition, not a medical condition. India was one among the first countries to sign and ratify the Convention and she has harmonized her old model medical and Rehabilitation Laws with a new law based on rights perspective. As part of rendering its responsibility to achieve equality for disability, Galgotias University has taken a historical initiative by opening a Disability Centre named, Disability Rights Clinic.

The objective of the Disability Rights Clinic

The Disability Rights Clinic embeds its objective to prompt the society to make self review of "How do we perceive disability"?. This is explicit in the name of the University Center, that the Center name would be read as a medical center unless we are into disability rights perspective. That's exactly the obvious objective of the center. It aims the following:

- 1. Sensitize the students of Galgotias University towards disability and disability Rights.
- 2. Academic Courses on Disability Law and studies to prepare the students understand Disability in the "right manner".
- 3. Regular program, Workshops, Seminar and opportunities for people with disability to display any of the skills.
- 4. Signing MoU's with Disability Rights Clinic of universities in the developed countries, thereby to bring good models of disability inclusive practices.
- 5. A long time objective of the center is to connect with disability organizations and other related government institutions to work towards establishing equality for people with disabilities by eradicating the long persisting socially prejudiced stereotypic attitude.



December 3, 2022 was gracefully celebrated at the University by inaugurating the above center followed by a thematic seminar on "Understanding Disability: The Rights Paradigm".



The Inauguration was elegantly done by the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Air Commodore Ranjan Mukherjee, VSM (Retd.), the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, NCT of Delhi, in the presence of Ms. Aradhana Galgotia, Director Operations, Galgotias University and all the invited eminent speakers.



The Chief Guest inaugurated the Disability Rights Clinic by gracefully cutting the ribbon.





(The Guests spending time inside the Clinic sharing their ideas to develop the center and heading back to the Seminar Hall.)

The seminar schedule was systemically moderated by Prof. Pramadvara of School of Law Galgotias University,



The Seminar began by displaying a video describing the real discriminatory experiences faced by three people with disabilities from different parts of the world, including India.





It was an eye opener for the participants to know the fact that, disability discrimination is a global factor. The Seminar Hall was filled with students from School of Law and other Departments.



The program was chaired by Ms. Aradhana Galgotia and the Seminar program began by the customary lamp lighting to symbolically spread light for the efforts towards the Disability Rights Clinic's mission to achieve Equality for Disability.





After the warm lamp lighting, the Dean of School of Law, Prof. Namita delivered a Welcome speech, and all the guests were warmly welcomed.





The Program Chair Ms. Aradhana, delivered a felicitation talk wishing the Center to reach its heights to achieve its mission. She also has announced the University's plan to introduce a Seminar Course on Disability Rights Paradigm at central level.





She concluded her speech after inviting the Chief Guest to deliver the Inauguration Felicitation Talk.



The chief guest shared his experiences as a Disability Commissioner and reiterated that, people with disabilities are not in expectation of any sympathy from others rather empathy.

Prof. Renu Luthra, the Advisor of the Chancellor also delivered a felicitation talk she narrated the relevance respecting the dignity and integrity of people with disabilities and also the importance of giving equal opportunities for people with disabilities. The seminar was enriched with eminent talks delivered by people of expertise in Disability law and studies.



Prof. Renu Luthra signed off her talk and invited Professor Jagdish Chander of Delhi University to deliver his talk. Prof. Jagdish Chander delivered a very delighted talk on the topic of "Disability Law in India: A shift from Charity to Rights". He explained in detail the struggles of the Disability Rights Movement to bring a change in the stereotypic attitude of the society through law.

Dr. Sachin Sharma, an Associate professor of Himachal Pradesh National University (HPNLU) Shimla delivered a very realistic talk on "Sensitization Towards Disability: The Rights Perspective" sharing his own experiences of exclusion as a person with disability. He interacted with the student audience and made them involve in depth to understand the need to sensitize towards disability. He also highlighted on the current theme for Disability Inclusion policy of the Government for the current year. Following this, Mr. Subhash Chandra Vashishth, an Advocate of Supreme Court of India, who also is an active specialist on Accessibility, Universal Design & Diversity Inclusion. He delivered a very discussion based speech on Disability Inclusion through Universal Design, Accessibility and the Law. He elaborated the Government initiatives and quoted the examples for accessibility in the field of technology, transport and other public accessibilities.

(Photos of the Speakers delivering talk.)



Dr. Smitha Nizar, an Associate Professor of School of Law, Galgotias University and a prominent disability rights scholar delivered an analytical talk on the Status of Right to Education for people with Disabilities in India. She concluded her speech by bringing the point that, "though right to education is a fundamental right under the Indian Constitution and also an exclusive right under the Disability law in the form of Inclusive Education, people with disabilities are literally secluded for special education. She highlighted the adverse consequences of special education that explicitly denies them the opportunity to become part of the society. After this last speech, the Chair of the Program honored the Chief Guest and the guest speakers. The Session was concluded after the vote of thanks conveyed by Dr. Smitha Nizar, Associate Professor, Galgotias University.



